NOTE IV.

ON A NEW BIRD OF PARADISE

BY

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Mr. Th. H. Ruys, who stayed during four years for commercial purposes at the north-west coast of New Guinea, presented at his return in Holland to our Museum some skins of birds of paradise, among which is, besides the rare *Diphyllodes gulielmi III*, also a species, being as I believe new to science. I cannot place it in any of the described genera of the Paradiseidae; it shows some relations to *Diphyllodes* and also to *Paradisea*, but as there are important differences with these two genera, I propose to call it:

Neoparadisea ruysi, nov. gen. et nov. spec.

The bird seems to be a male in not fully developed plumage. The tail is, like that of *Paradisea*, composed of 12 feathers, of which the central pair is much elongated, like in *P. apoda* and *minor*, but the barbs are a little longer, those of the outer web are longer than those of the inner web and of a metallic green colour. These two feathers are curved downwards as in *Paradisea*, not aside as in *Diphyllodes*.

The shape of the bill is like that of *Diphyllodes*, but it is larger as the bird is larger, and it seems to be of a dark colour in the living bird. The oval nostrils are covered by the somewhat elongated feathers of the fore-head, for the rest they are free.

The first primary is very short and pointed, the second

nearly twice as long; the fourth, which is the longest, is 20 mm. longer than the second, the third 3 mm. shorter than the fourth. The webs of the secondaries are somewhat broadened.

Chin and throat are black with a purplish-green gloss; fore-neck and breast blackish brown with a purplish blue gloss, each feather of the breast fan-shaped at its end and of a brownish colour with a glossy purplish blue margin; belly and under tailcoverts blackish brown, the latter with lighter centres. At each side of the body there is a tuft of loose feathers of a sooty brown colour with some whitish brown barbs at the distal end; these flankplumes do not reach the end of the wing. The feathers of the forehead are greenish black; those of the head and neck are short and thickset as in *Paradisea* and they are brownish yellow with small greenish black margins. The feathers of the hind-neck and back are elongated, in appearance like those of the back of *P. minor*, but of a bright orange brown colour; the rump and upper tailcoverts are olive brown, the tail is dusky brown with some purplish gloss. The wings are also dusky brown, the secondaries having an orange brown margin along the outer web and a sand-coloured margin along the inner web. On the upper surface the wings show, like the tail, a purplish blue shine.

The legs are dull bluish black.

The measurements are in mm.: wing 150; tail 90, two central feathers 360; length of the lower jaw (the upper one is damaged) 32; tarso-metatarsus 42.

The bird was collected in August or September 1905 by Papuan hunters near Warsembo on the westcoast of the Geelvink Bay, opposite the island of Amberpoon, Dutch New Guinea.

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